

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in Fairfax County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

September 25, 2012 to October 23, 2012

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal activity to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT :

DOD/U.S. Army

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Department of the Army (Army) proposes an alternate implementation of the Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL) program at Fort Belvoir in Fairfax County. The Army proposes to implement the PAL program at Fort Belvoir as described in the PAL Environmental Assessment submitted and reviewed in 2011 (DEQ 11-127F), but with one major change: the new lodging facility would be constructed near the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital (Parcel F, Community Center Parcel), not near Knadle Hall. The Army conveyed most existing lodging facilities to Lend Lease, a private development entity, in August 2011. Under the Preferred Alternative in the current EA, the Army would grant to Lend Lease a 47-year lease of a parcel of land off Belvoir Road near Pence Gate for the construction of a new 172-room lodging facility (Staybridge Suites). Lend Lease would be expected to meet Fort Belvoir's lodging requirements by operating and maintaining the existing facilities, renovating inadequate facilities, and constructing a new one. The Army has submitted an EA for the proposed action which includes a Federal Consistency Determination (FCD). The FCD finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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